

STENOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT THE 67TH SESSION
OF THE IMPERIAL DIET. 26 JANUARY 1935.

Answer of the Minister of State.
Minister of State (Mr. Koki Hirota).

According to my belief, the Russian and Japanese Government concluded the Portsmouth Treaty after the bitter experience of war between the two countries. In this treaty Saghalien was divided at 50° latitude and all fortifications were prohibited, while between Korea and the Maritime Province too there is a promise restricting fortifications. I think that these clauses were included from the conviction that from the bitter experience of war the previous course should not be repeated and a peaceful arrangement should be made. Consequently, I often told the Russian authorities that it is most important to approach the question of the boundaries of Russia and Manchukuo with the same idea. At any rate the above problem will be dealt with after the conclusion of the purchase of the Chinese Eastern Railway, and I shall do my best towards that end.

You have made a detailed comment on Japanese international relations, but from my point of view I concur completely with Mr. Ashida's opinion. I have never taken an optimistic view of the international conditions confronting Japan for the future; of course, optimistic views cannot be allowed.

Reviewing the armament situation of the powers, although there is no likelihood of immediate collisions or wars, every country is spending great sums for the increase of armaments. Under these circumstances, even though Japan has peaceful aspirations, it is my conviction that she should not be vulnerable militarily. However, even if this be the case, if I should be asked if there will be war in the near future, I would answer that I am firmly convinced that during my tenure of office there will be positively no war.

There are many more points in your questions but, generally speaking, I think I have covered all the points positively calling for my answer.

CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, KONDO, Hideaki, who occupy the post of a Secretary of the House of Peers, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 2 pages and entitled "Stenographic Record of the House of Representatives at the 67th Session of the Imperial Diet" is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (The House of Peers).

certified at Tokyo,
on this 18th day of March, 1947

KONDO, Hideaki (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place,
on the same date

Witness:

ONODERA, Goichi (seal)

第六十七回帝國議會衆議院議事速記録
昭和十年一月二十六日
國務大臣(廣田弘毅君)
國務大臣答辭

自分ノ考トシテハ現ニ日本ト露西亞ト云フモノノ間ニハ嘗テ大ナル戦争ヲ致
シマシテ苦シイ經驗ヲ經テ居ル其ノ結果ト致シマシテ時ノ政府當局ハ「ボ
ツマス」條約ヲ結ンダノデアリマス、其ノ條約ヲ見マシテモ現ニ樺太ヲ五十
度ヲ以テ南北ニ別ケテ居リマスガ其處ニハ防備ハ一切設備ハヒナイト云フ約
束モ出來テ居ル又朝鮮ト沿海洲ノ間ニモ防備制限ノ約束ガアルノデアリマス
是ハ兩國ノ間ニ隨分苦シイ經驗ノ結果將來ハ從來ノ通りデハイカヌカラ今度
ハ斯ウ云フ風ニ平和的ノ設備ヲシナケレバナラヌト云フ信念カラ出來タモノ
デアルト思フノデアリマス隨ヒマシテ夫レト同ジヤウナ觀念ヲ滿洲ト露西亞
ノ境界線土ニモ及ボスト云フヤウナ風ニ進ンデ行フコトガ最も大事ナ點デア
ルト思フト云フコトヲ私ハ露西亞ノ當局ニモ屢々話シタコトガアルノデアリ
マス何レ斯ウ云フ問題モ東支鐵道ノ交渉解決後ニハ徐々ニ斯ウ云フ問題ニ禍
シテ參ルコトデアルト思ヒマスノデ十分其ノ點ニ付テハ努力致シタイト思フ
ノデアリマス尙ホ其ノ外ニ色々日本ノ國際情勢等ニ付テ非常ニ詳シク御意見

チ御述ベニナツタノデアリマスガ私ハ一面カラ見マスト芦田君ノ意見ニ全然
 賛成スルノデアリマス決シテ私ハ日本人ノ前途ヲ樂觀ハ致サナイノデアリマ
 ス。無論樂觀スルコトハ出來ナイノデアリマス。各國ノ今日ノ軍備狀況ヲ見
 マスト、假令何レノ國ノ間ニモ直グニ戦争又ハ紛擾ヲ起スト云フコトハナイ
 ト致シマシテモ各國共非常ナ巨大ナル費用ヲ使ツテ軍備ノ擴張ヲ努メテ居ル
 今日ノ現状ニ於キマシテハ如何ニ日本ガ國際關係ノ大局ト致シマシテハ平和
 ノ方針ヲ以テ參リマスト致シマシテモ矢張り根本ニ於テ軍備ノ充實ト云フコ
 トハヤツテ置クベキモノデアルト私ハ通信致シテ居ルノデアリマス併ナガラ
 ソレカト云ツテ將來戦争ノ虞レガアルヤト申シマスニ少クトモ私が今日ノ信
 念ヲ以テ申シマスレバ私ノ在任中ニ戦争ハ斷ジテナイト云フコトヲ通信致シ
 テ居リマス尙ホ色々ノ點モアリマシタガ大体私カラ進ンデ答ヘスベキ點ハ此
 立デアルト思ヒマス。

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文書ノ出所竝ニ成立ニ關スル證明書

自分近藤英明ハ貴族院書記官ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處茲ニ添付セラレタル日本
語ニ依ツテ書カレ貳頁ヨリ成ル第六十七回衆議院議事速記録ト題スル書類
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シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年三月十八日

於東京

近藤英明

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日於同所

立會人

小野寺

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